

November 22-26, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

**Court performance measures, Supreme Court and Court of Appeals camera rules on agenda for Supreme Court's Nov. 28 public administrative hearing**

[Press release](#)

**Jackson County Legal News: Jackson resident receives lifetime achievement award**

"Marilyn F. Stephen of Jackson, the former director of the Office of Child Support for the Department of Human Services, and Thomas M. Haskel of Grayling, a longtime juvenile officer and court administrator are the 2012 winners of the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**Macomb County Legal News: Pair honored for service to children and families**

[Full story](#)

**Washtenaw County Legal News: Two Michigan residents receive Lifetime Achievement Awards**

[Full story](#)

**Wright Lifetime Achievement Award winners announced; former Office of Child Support Director Marilyn Stephen of Jackson, Crawford County Juvenile Officer Thomas Haskel honored for service to Michigan families**

[Press release](#)

**Flint Journal: Controlled chaos: Davison family thankful after adopting eighth child**

"Pamela and Tony D'Aigle have at least 11 reasons to be thankful this year. The D'Aigles marked Michigan Adoption Day Tuesday, Nov. 20, by finalizing their eighth adoption in Genesee Probate Court. Add the couple's three biological children to the mix and the family's Davison home is in a constant state of controlled chaos."

[Full story](#)

**Jackson County Legal News: [Jackson area] families celebrate Michigan Adoption Day**

"It was an emotion-packed day Nov. 16 at the Jackson County Courthouse as 10 families made it legal on Michigan Adoption Day.... After one of the hearings, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Steven Markman told The Legal News that he and his colleagues are honored to participate in adoptions across the state on Adoption Day."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**Washtenaw County Legal News: [Jackson area] families celebrate Michigan Adoption Day**

[Full story](#)

**Midland Daily News: Forever families celebrated with local Adoption Day**

"Courtney Ann, just 18 months old, and her new buddy Cameron John — a talkative 3-year-old — made their forever homes official as part of Michigan Adoption Day earlier [last] week. Both were adopted by

their foster families, Thomas and Holly Haley, and Phil and Starleen Eddy, after having been wards of the court since they were five months old. Cameron is the third foster child to find a permanent home with the Eddy family. Overseeing the hearings was Midland County Probate Judge Dorene S. Allen."

[Full story](#)

### **The Mining Journal/Marquette: Anderegg accepts adoption honor**

"A Marquette County official who received national recognition this fall accepted his award in Lansing [last] week. Marquette County Probate Court Judge Michael Anderegg was one of just 113 people in the country to receive the Angels in Adoption award this year....The award was presented by an aide to Sen. Levin. Anderegg, who was unable to attend the main Angels in Adoption event in Washington, D.C. this September, was one of two judges in Lansing Tuesday to help honor Michigan Adoption Day. Both he and Saginaw County Probate Judge Faye Harrison completed adoptions in the Michigan Hall of Justice."

[Full story](#)

### **Also see:**

### **WLUC-TV(6)/Negaunee: Local judge receives two honors on Adoption Day**

[Full story](#)

### **Morning Sun: Mt. Pleasant family celebrates adoption**

"Thanksgiving means a little bit more this year to one Mt. Pleasant family. As Gloria Loveland's relatives get together for their holiday feast, they will be counting three new blessings. Kayn, 8; Damiey'n, 5; and Remy Loveland --Gloria's grandsons --became her legal children Tuesday during Michigan Adoption Day in Judge William Ervin's courtroom in Isabella County Trial Court."

[Full story](#)

### **The Oakland Press: Teen sisters have a new family thanks to Farmington Hills couple**

"In the United States, there are about 100,000 children in foster care waiting to be adopted into a permanent, loving home. Among the children in foster care were teenage sisters Stephanie, 15, and Miranda, 17, who had been in the system for five years.... The adoption was finalized Tuesday during the National Adoption Day ceremony in Pontiac."

[Full story](#)

### **Traverse City Record-Eagle: Cheers: 11/26/2012**

"... To the Grand Traverse County Probate court for holding its annual Adoption Day, this time at the Hagerty Center so more people could attend. Twenty-one adoptions for children of all ages were finalized."

[Full story](#)

### **Traverse City Record-Eagle: Foster kids get new direction**

"Krystal McGovern dreams of a nursing career, but the Traverse City resident's road to success may be a bit rockier than most.... McGovern found stability as she emerged from the foster care system, thanks both to her foster parents and an innovative program called Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative."

[Full story](#)

### **WOOD TV(8)/Grand Rapids: Rockford family is proof of the impact of adoption**

Tuesday November 20 is Michigan Adoption Day: a local story regarding Jan and Harold Woods.

[Full story](#)

### **The Detroit News: Editorial: Justice Hathaway should leave the bench**

"Michigan Supreme Court Justice Diane Hathaway has issued a statement adamantly denying that she is resigning from the court. In light of the civil bank fraud suit filed against her by the U.S. attorney's office, she should rethink that position."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: Frank Beckmann: Did the feds give Justice Hathaway another sweetheart deal?**

[Full story](#)

**The Detroit News: Hathaway to fight federal effort to seize Florida property**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: State Supreme Court Justice Diane Hathaway fights to keep home amid scandal; denies rumors of resigning**

[Full story](#)

**Note:** The article also ran in the Daily Press & Argus.

**Daily Press & Argus: Rich Perlberg: Partisanship shouldn't blur Michigan Supreme Court justice's home case**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Legal News: Feds accuse MSC Justice Hathaway of real estate fraud**

[Full story](#)

**MLive.com Tim Skubick: Justice Diane Hathaway's legal troubles tarnish Michigan Supreme Court**

[Full story](#)

**Note:** The article also ran on WJBK-TV(2)/Detroit.

**WKAR-TV(23)/East Lansing: Off the Record with Tim Skubick (11/23/12 show, 1:50-7:25 minute mark)**

[Full story](#)

**National Review Blog/NY: FBI Closing in on Michigan Supreme Court Justice**

[Full story](#)

**Detroit Free Press: Michigan appeals court won't overturn ruling on Highers brothers**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals rejected a request Wednesday from the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office to overturn a judge's ruling that freed brothers Thomas and Raymond Highers from state prison after nearly 25 years. The ruling set the stage for a new trial next year and for the men to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner with family."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

**The Detroit News: Once convicted of murder, Macomb men plan trip to Thanksgiving parade**

[Full story](#)

**The Detroit News: Court upholds smart meter rate hike order**

"The Michigan Public Service Commission was justified in approving a Consumers Energy rate hike to help fund the utility's smart meter program, the state Court of Appeals has ruled. In a seven-page ruling Tuesday, the court upheld the regulator's November 2010 order to continue funding for smart meter infrastructure, saying Consumers Energy provided extensive information about its plans for implementing the program and the expected benefit to customers."

[Full story](#)

## **Detroit Free Press: Former Bashara attorney David Griem ordered to pay \$8K for civil contempt of court**

"David Griem, the former attorney for Bob Bashara, was ordered today to pay \$8,000 in attorney and court fees after being found in civil contempt of court. Griem pleaded responsibility last month to civil contempt to avoid being held in criminal contempt. Griem was accused of improperly sharing evidence with Bashara's family and issuing unauthorized subpoenas."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **The Detroit News: Ex-Bashara attorney to pay \$8K for violating court rules**

[Full story](#)

## **The Detroit News: No new trial for Farmington Hills teacher who killed husband**

"A federal appeals court has overturned a two-year-old decision that granted a new trial to a Farmington Hills teacher who hacked her husband to death with a hatchet before she went to school. U.S. District Judge Bernard Friedman in October 2010 said Nancy Seaman's attorney didn't do enough to develop her claim as a battered spouse. But a three-judge panel of the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals [last] week ruled that Friedman's view of the case was too broad."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **Detroit Free Press: No new trial for teacher who hacked husband to death**

[Full story](#)

**Note.** The article also ran in the Battle Creek Enquirer, the Oakland Press and the Traverse City Record-Eagle.

## **The Detroit News: Detroit ordered to pay \$1.1M in bungled federal lawsuit**

"A man who was arrested at age 14 and charged with murder has been awarded \$1.1 million in a federal lawsuit because city of Detroit attorneys failed to file paperwork in court.... [B]ecause the city failed to file an answer to the lawsuit, U.S. District Judge Sean Cox in September awarded a default judgment: \$1.1 million to [Caleb] Sosa and \$80,380 to his mother, Amparo Hernandez-Sosa."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **Detroit Free Press: Detroit ordered to pay man \$1.1M in botched murder case**

[Full story](#)

## **Detroit Free Press: Editorial: The Free Press' agenda for improving mental health care in Michigan**

"... The issue: Mental health courts: A three-year federal grant -- amounting to \$1.65 million a year -- supporting Michigan's eight pilot mental health court programs is set to expire this year. Without replacement money, the promising pilots, including those in Wayne and Oakland Counties, will shut down. The prescription: The state wisely moved to maintain and expand mental health courts, which already show results in reducing incarceration costs and improving the lives of mentally ill people."

[Full story](#)

**Also see:**

## **Detroit Free Press: Jeff Gerritt: Mental care uncured -- Too many with mental illness find torture instead of proper treatment**

[Full story](#)

## **C & G News/Warren: No change to court bid**

"City Council reconfirmed the use of a St. Clair Shores general contractor for the 40th District Court construction project after investigating the possibility of getting more union shops on board as subcontractors."

[Full story](#)

### **Daily Press & Argus: Chad C. Schmucker guest column: Time guidelines only part of move to bolster courts**

"Your Nov. 18 article 'Judging the judges — Judicial performance measure has critics' suggests that time guidelines for state courts — the time in which courts are supposed to complete their cases — are unrealistic. In fact, the data indicates otherwise. But more than that, time guidelines — which have been used for years — are only part of a trial-court performance initiative that will result in better public service and more efficient courts."

[Full story](#)

### **The Daily Tribune: Ferndale mulls \$2M in court, police upgrades**

"About \$2 million from special fees on tickets may help the city renovate its badly outdated courthouse and police station. Police Chief Timothy Collins and Ferndale 43rd District Judge Joseph Longo are scheduled to make a presentation to the City Council at its meeting Monday to move the project forward."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Evening with Jurists**

"The Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers (ISIAL) in conjunction with the Hellenic Bar Association of Michigan (HBAM) and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in honor of its 100th anniversary were pleased to present 'An Evening with the Jurists' on Wednesday, Oct. 17, in the UDM School of Law Atrium in Detroit."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Some kids 'you can't let go' Juvenile referee encourages those leaving system to return with success stories**

"Julia B. Owdziej works with troubled kids in her job as an attorney referee/deputy probate register at the Washtenaw County Juvenile and Probate Court. Because the job can be heart wrenching, she learned long ago to leave it behind at the end of the day. But there was something about a boy named Kenny who entered the juvenile system 12 years ago that made detachment difficult."

[Full story](#)

### **Detroit Legal News: Attorney honored for 50 years of service**

"... Recently, the State Bar of Michigan and the state Supreme Court's Chief Justice Robert Young recognized [Jack] Coté for 50 years of service to the legal profession.... Today, the former partner of East Lansing's Willingham and Coté continues a private practice. He represents other attorneys and judges in grievance cases."

[Full story](#)

**Note: The article also ran in the Oakland County Legal News.**

### **Flint-Genesee County Legal News: 'Heroes' honored in battle against domestic violence**

"... The [November 14] program was sponsored by the Oakland County Coordinating Council Against Domestic Violence, an organization that was founded in 1994 'in order to develop and sustain a coordinated, broad-based community response' to the problem, according to Circuit Judge Edward Sosnick, who was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his dedication and special insight."

[Full story](#)

### **Hometown Life Newspapers: Supreme duties; With election in past Justice Zahra ready to tackle court issues**

"After a tough election campaign, Northville resident Brian Zahra said he's ready to move on with the duties as a justice of the Michigan Supreme Court.... Zahra was appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder in 2011 to fill the vacancy left by former state Supreme Court Justice Maura Corrigan, who left her position on the court to join Snyder's cabinet. He won the Nov. 6 election against Oakland County 46th District Court Judge Shelia Johnson and will complete the final two years of Corrigan's term."

[Full story](#)

### **Ingham County Legal News: Law to make Michigan courts business friendly**

"Michigan recently enacted legislation creating specialized 'business courts' effective January 1, 2013. These courts will look to streamline the judicial process and maximize efficiency for many business related matters."

[Full story](#)

### **Jackson Citizen Patriot: Michigan Court of Appeals has affirmed conviction of woman convicted of delivering heroin that killed 19-year-old**

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has affirmed the convictions of a woman linked to the October 2010 drug overdose death of 19-year-old Cherie Irving and another woman convicted of assisting in the disposal of her body."

[Full story](#)

### **Lansing State Journal: Webberville woman says jury duty led to firing Employer may face criminal charges**

"The owners of a Webberville truck stop could be held in contempt of court or face criminal charges if it's determined they fired an employee for serving as a juror on a murder trial.... Ingham County officials say if the allegations are true, it's the first time in recent memory that a juror has lost his or her job for serving on a case."

[Full story](#)

**\*\* The article is available by subscription only.**

### **Lansing State Journal: Delta Township board bids farewell to three trustees**

"In a bittersweet moment, three outgoing Delta Township trustees were recognized for their years of service Monday night. With a 16-year history on the board and a reputation as its 'institutional historian,' Jan Cunningham will soon take the bench as the Eaton County circuit judge."

[Full story](#)

**\*\* The article is available by subscription only.**

### **Macomb County Legal News: Getting together for lunch with the judge**

"The courtroom of 42-2 District Court Judge William H. Hackel III was the site of the most recent Brown Bag lunch event sponsored by the Macomb County Bar Association's Young Lawyers Section."

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Youth parole ruling not applied retroactively**

"A landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision that said juveniles convicted of murder can be eligible for parole should not be retroactively applied for most youths sentenced in Michigan, a state appeals court panel said in a recently released ruling. The Michigan Court of Appeals ruling came in the case of Raymond Carp, a St. Clair County man who was convicted of a murder committed when he was 15."

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Getting rid of that pesky record**

"... If you're looking to set aside a criminal conviction, also called an 'expungement,' the State Court Administrator's Office (SCAO) has a great packet which includes eligibility questions, instructions and forms to help you do this."

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Man likely to go free nearly a decade later**

"[James Grissom,] who has spent nearly a decade behind bars, is on the verge of freedom as a prosecutor moves to drop a rape case against him.... The Michigan Supreme Court recently granted Grissom a second trial. But a judge [last] week is expected to review a request by the St. Clair County prosecutor to drop the case."

[Full story](#)

### **Macomb County Legal News: Court denies challenge to appointment (second article)**

"The state appeals court has denied another challenge to Roy Roberts' right to keep his job as Detroit Public Schools emergency financial manager. The court says in an order [Friday November 16] that Roberts was appointed under Public Act 72 after Public Act 4 — Michigan's most recent emergency manager law — was suspended earlier this year."

[Full story](#)

### **Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor Supporters want the Michigan legislature to vote on a controversial bill on 'foreign laws'**

"Supporters of an 'Anti-Sharia' bill plan to put pressure on Michigan lawmakers this week. They want a vote on the bill, which would bar Michigan courts from citing 'foreign' laws in their decisions. The bill has sat in the State House Judiciary committee for nearly a year and a half."

[Full story](#)

### **State Bar of Michigan Blog: A Warning About Judicial Retirement**

"A soon-to-be-published study of federal judicial retirement, 'Leaving the Bench, 1970-2009: The Choices Federal Judges Make, What Influences Those Choices, and Their Consequences,' warns that federal judicial pay stagnation may prompt a growing number of federal judges to leave the bench upon reaching retirement age rather than continue to serve in senior status."

[Full story](#)

### **WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Michigan families file lawsuit alleging wrongful adoptions**

"'It was frustrating. We felt deceived,' says 'Kimberly H.' We're calling her Kimberly H. in order to protect the identity of her little girl, who we refer to as Zola. Kimberly and her husband of Waterford adopted Zola two years ago, but Kimberly says she feels betrayed by the state's Department of Human Services, or DHS, and some adoption workers. She says they withheld information that Zola had sickle cell disease."

[Full story](#)